

Senate Resolution 183

By: Senator Millar of the 40th

## A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the first week of October as Georgia Pre-K Week; and for other purposes.

2 WHEREAS, an increasing body of research now shows that more than 85 percent of a child's  
3 brain is developed by age five, forming the foundation for communication, critical thinking,  
4 and literacy; and

5 WHEREAS, quality early learning experiences ensure children will be more prepared for  
6 kindergarten, which has proven positive results on longer-term life success; and

7 WHEREAS, students must start school ready to succeed in order to be able to read at grade  
8 level by the third grade; and

9 WHEREAS, the National Institute for Early Education Research recognizes Georgia's Pre-K  
10 program for its high ratio of teachers to children, its small class sizes, and meeting eight of  
11 ten benchmarks for quality; and

12 WHEREAS, strong programs like Georgia Pre-K have been shown to increase standardized  
13 test scores and high school graduation rates; and

14 WHEREAS, economists have shown that for every public dollar invested in high-caliber  
15 early education, an average of \$7.00 can be saved by reducing the need for remedial  
16 education and the costs of other social service supports; and

17 WHEREAS, each student should be able to learn in an intellectually challenging  
18 environment that is physically and emotionally safe; and

19 WHEREAS, early investment reduces societal costs of welfare, crime, delinquency, and teen  
20 pregnancy and yields a significant long-term return on investment in workforce productivity;  
21 and

22 WHEREAS, the first week of October is an appropriate week to designate as Georgia Pre-K  
23 Week.

24 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body  
25 recognize the importance of preparing young children for kindergarten through pre-k  
26 programs and declare the first week of October as Georgia Pre-K Week.

27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed  
28 to transmit appropriate copies of this resolution to the public and the press.